

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

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P 051511Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, AR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - BILATERAL RELATIONS

REF: STATE 65706

1. CAB NOW HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION A NEW SCHEDULE FILED BY ARGENTINE AIRLINES TO BE EFFECTIVE MAY 1. IN ADDITION TO THREE NEW ROUND TRIP FREQUENCIES, NEW SCHEDULE INCLUDES CO-TERMINALIZATION OF NEW YORK AND MIAMI ON TWO ADDITIONAL FLIGHTS PER WEEK. (PRESENTLY MIAMI AND NEW YORK ARE CO-TERMINALIZED ON ONLY ONE WEEKLY ROUND TRIP SERVICE.) UNDER CAB PROCEDURES, NEW SERVICES MAY BE OPERATED AS OF MAY 1 UNLESS BOARD ISSUES AN ORDER, SUBJECT TO STAY OR DISAPPROVAL BY PRESIDENT WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER ADOPTION, NOTIFYING AEROLINEAS THAT NEW SCHEDULE MAY NOT BE INAUGURATED.

2. WHILE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT WISH TAKE ACTIONS WHICH WOULD UNNECESSARILY INCREASE RISKS OF CIVAIR CONFRONTA-

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TION, WE DO NOT SEE HOW US COULD APPROVE NEW AEROLINEAS

SCHEDULE WHEN GOA HAS TURNED DOWN US AIRLINE APPLICATIONS FOR INCREASED FREQUENCIES.

3. WHILE WE NOT PARTICULARLY SANGUINE THAT WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT FURTHER ATTEMPT SHOULD BE MADE WITH GOA TO AVOID UNILATERAL ACTIONS ON EITHER SIDE. WE HAVE SO FAR TRIED TO ACHIEVE THIS BY CALLING FOR GOA

APPROVAL ADDITIONAL US AIRLINE FREQUENCIES IN CONTEXT REMOVING PRESSURES FOR USG RECONSIDER VALIDITY EXISTING AEROLINEAS MIAMI/NEW YORK CO-TERMINAL RIGHTS. AT THIS POINT, WE BELIEVE THAT US SHOULD FOCUS MORE ON PROBLEM OF OUR POSITION RE PROPOSED AEROLINEAS SCHEDULE THAN ON RE-CONSIDERING EXISTING COTERMINAL AUTHORITY, ALTHOUGH WE SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY FOREGO MENTION OF LATTER.

4. DURING THE CONSULTATIONS HELD IN WASHINGTON FEB. 19-MARCH 1, AND IN THE GOA POSITION PAPER (BA 2066) "CRITERIA HELD BY THE ARGENTINE AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITY" THE GOA WAS OF THE OPINION THAT MAINTAINENCE OF THE PRESENT LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING ACHIEVED BY BOTH SIDES WAS A DESIRABLE OBJECTIVE. SUCH A POSITION IS UNDERSTANDABLE IN THE LIGHT OF THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED MARCH 1 REGARDING THE DIFFERENCES IN THE POSITIONS ADVANCED BY THE TWO DELEGATIONS AND THE DECISION TO RECONVENE AT A MUTUALLY AGREEABLE DATE. THE USG HAS ASSUMED THAT THE ACTION OF THE GOA IN DISAPPROVING THE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE US CARRIERS FOR INCREASED FREQUENCIES WAS TAKEN CONSISTENT WITH SUCH AN INTERPRETATION. US DISAPPROVAL OF THE CURRENT FILING BY AEROLINEAS WOULD BE SIMILARLY CONSISTENT WITH THIS POSITION.

5. HOWEVER THE US DOES NOT WISH TO RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME LIMITED PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVING OUR CIVIL AIR RELATIONSHIPS MIGHT CONCEIVABLY TAKE PLACE DURING THE PERIOD PRIOR TO THE RECONVENING OF THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS. WE ARE THEREFORE PREPARED TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME MODIFICATIONS IN AEROLINEAS PRESENT SCHEDULES, INCLUDING FREQUENCY INCREASES, IN THE CONTEXT OF A FAVORABLE DISPOSITION ON THE PART OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES TOWARD THE APPLICATIONS MADE BY THE US CARRIERS FOR INCREASED FREQUENCIES. EVEN PROVISIONAL OR TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION FOR SUCH INCREASES DURING THE PERIOD PRIOR TO THE FORTHCOMING CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE A POSITIVE STEP TOWARD THE OBJECTIVE SOUGHT BY EACH SIDE. WE WOULD WELCOME INDICATION FROM GOA THAT IT SHARES THIS VIEW, AND THAT IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECONSIDER ITS RECENT DECISIONS REGARDING THE INCREASES PROPOSED BY THE

US CARRIERS. IF ON THE OTHER HAND THE GOA INSISTS UPON HOLDING TO PRESENT LEVELS PENDING THE RESUMPTION OF CONSULTATIONS, IT WILL UNDERSTAND THAT THE US, ACTING CONSISTENTLY WITH SUCH A POSITION, WILL HAVE TO TAKE ACTION WHICH WOULD PRECLUDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW SERVICES PROPOSED BY AEROLINEAS ARGENTINAS PENDING RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS.

6. EMBASSY AUTHORIZED TO INCORPORATE SUBSTANCE OF

PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 5 IN AN AIDE-MEMOIRE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE IF THIS SEEMS INDICATED OR DESIRABLE. RUSH

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